

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY NEA/TUR:MBHIRSHORN:CF

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR,TU

SUBJ: FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY MESSAGE

REF: ANKARA 8350

USIAC

PER BENSON REQUEST, FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF FIFTIETH
ANNIVERSARY MESSAGE TO TURKISH PEOPLE FROM PRESIDENT
AS VOICED BY JOSEPH J. SISCO:

QUOTE PRESIDENT NIXON HAS ASKED ME TO DELIVER TO YOU,
THE PEOPLE OF TURKEY, THIS PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM HIM:

IT GIVES ME GREAT PLEASURE TO CONGRATULATE THE PEOPLE OF
TURKEY ON THIS HISTORIC CELEBRATION OF THE FIFTIETH
ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE REPUBLIC. SINCE THE
DAYS FOLLOWING WWI, WHEN MODERN TURKEY'S GREAT LEADER,
MUSTAFA KEMAL ATATURK, HELPED BRING FORTH A NEW REPUBLIC,
RELATIONS BETWEEN THE U.S. AND TURKEY HAVE BROADENED AND
DEEPENED AS THE TURKISH REPUBLIC HAS GROWN AND PROSPERED.

OUR RELATIONS ENTERED A NEW AND EVEN CLOSER PHASE AFTER
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WWII WHEN WE JOINED IN SIGNING THE AGREEMENT

CARRYING OUT THE TRUMAN DOCTRINE. SINCE THAT TIME WE

HAVE BEEN LINKED NOT ONLY BY A TRADITION OF FRIENDLY RELATIONS AND A COMMITMENT TO DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS, BUT ALSO BY OUR COMMON CONCERN FOR THE SECURITY AND FREEDOM OF OUR OWN AND ALLIED COUNTRIES. THIS CONCERN WAS REFLECTED WHEN FORCES FROM BOTH OUR NATIONS FOUGHT TOGETHER TO RESIST AGGRESSION DURING THE KOREAN CONFLICT.

IN 1952, TURKEY ENTERED THE NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION. SINCE THAT TIME, THROUGH OUR MUTUAL COMMITMENT TO FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY WE HAVE CONTINUED IN BUILDING A STRONG AND HEALTHY RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN TWO EQUAL SOVEREIGN NATIONS. BECAUSE WE BELIEVE THAT THE CAUSE OF WORLD PEACE IS BEST SERVED BY AN ALLIANCE OF STRONG, INDEPENDENT NATIONS, THE U.S. HAS ENDEAVORED TO ASSIST TURKEY IN ACHIEVING RAPID ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND GREATER MILITARY SELF-RELIANCE. I AM PROFOUNDLY PLEASED THAT THE EFFORTS OF THE TURKISH PEOPLE HAVE BEEN CROWNED WITH SUCH SUCCESS.

IT IS EXCEPTIONALLY FITTING THAT THIS FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION WILL INCLUDE THE OPENING OF THE BOSPHORUS BRIDGE, FULFILLING A DREAM THAT IS THOUSANDS OF YEARS OLD. THIS BRIDGE SYMBOLIZES THE DETERMINATION OF THE PEOPLE OF TURKEY TO FORGE A MODERN, INDUSTRIAL NATION AT THE CROSSROADS OF TWO CONTINENTS.

IT IS WITH GREAT PRIDE THAT I SPEAK FOR THE AMERICAN PEOPLE IN EXTENDING TO THE PEOPLE OF TURKEY OUR CONGRATULATIONS ON THIS GREAT ANNIVERSARY AND OUR VERY BEST WISHES FOR PEACE AND PROGRESS IN THE FUTURE.
UNQUOTE. KISSINGER

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